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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/484,781	01/18/2000	WILFRIED DAEHN	GR99P1058	1100

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EXAMINER

LE, DON P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2819

DATE MAILED: 03/21/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/484,781

Applicant(s)

DAEHN, WILFRIED

Examiner

Don P Le

Art Unit

2819

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 and 7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 10.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kamada (US 5,621,740).

3. With respect to claim 1, figures 1 and 3c of Kamada disclose an integrated circuit comprising:

a plurality of pad cells (100) to be monitored in one operating mode by a functional test, said plurality of pad cells each having a connecting pad (109), an upstream output driver (107), and a connection for an input signal (106);

a signal transmitter (111, 112) for producing periodic signal sequences (output of 111), said signal transmitter having a connection for a periodic output signal connected to said connection for an input signal of said plurality of pad cells to be tested, in order to test a transmission response of said plurality of pad cells in said one operating mode; and

shift register cells (104, 105) each connected in series between said connection (106) for an input signal of a respective one of said plurality of pad cells and said connection of said signal transmitter for an output signal.

4. With respect to claim 2, figure 1 of Kamada discloses the signal transmitter (11, 112) is reprogrammable to produce different periodic signal sequences (different signals based on different inputs).

5. With respect to claim 5, figures 1 and 3 of Kamada discloses multiplexer circuits (103s) each connected between the connection for an input signal of a respective one of the pad cells and said signal transmitter for an output signal, to switch over between said one operating mode and another operating mode.

6. With respect to claim 6, figure 1 of Kamada further disclose:

another functional unit (circuit connected to 101, not shown) having a connection for a signal;

each of said multiplexers circuits (103) having an output connected to said connection for an input signal of a respective one of the said pad cells to be tested;

each of said multiplexers circuits having one input connected to said connection of said signal transmitter for an output signal;

each of said multiplexer circuit shaving another input to be connected to said connection for a signal of said other functional unit;

the output signal from said signal transmitter being present at said output of said multiplexer circuits in said one operating mode; and

the signal from said other functional unit being present at said output of said multiplexer circuit s in said other operating mode.

7. With respect to claims 8-10, the methods therein are inherent given the apparatus of Kamada as shown in the above rejections.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 3 and 7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

9. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claim 3, in addition to other elements inn the claim, the prior art does not teach an integrated circuit having at least one pad cell is a plurality of pad cells to be tested, and said connections for an input signal of said plurality of pad cells are connected in parallel to said at least one connection of said signal transmitter for an output signal.

With respect to claim 7, in addition to other elements in the claim, the prior art does not teach an integrated circuit having a signal transmitter contains a clock-controlled bistable multivibrator of the T flip flop.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Don P Le whose telephone number is 703-308-4890. The examiner can normally be reached on 7AM - 5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael J Tokar can be reached on 703-305-3493. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-308-7724 for regular communications and 703-308-7724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Don Phu Le', with a stylized, cursive script.

Don Phu Le
March 20, 2002